

AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No. 09/326,691

Sub
A/B
Cmt
approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than 100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

Sub
C1
2 (Amended). A rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate and a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule.

A2
5 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein the compound A is an acrylate or a methacrylate.

6 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 2, wherein the compound A is a polyfunctional ester of a polyhydric alcohol and acrylic acid or methacrylic acid, and wherein the polyhydric alcohol is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of tetramethylolmethane, trimethylolpropane and polymers of these compounds.

A3
Sub
B2
9 (Amended). A rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule.

10 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 9, having, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference $\Delta E'$ between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200°C of 2.5 MPa or less.

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AB
S
B
Cm
11 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 10, wherein the compound A is an acrylate or a methacrylate.

12 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 9, wherein the compound A is a polyfunctional ester of a polyhydric alcohol and acrylic acid or methacrylic acid.

507
13 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 12, wherein the polyhydric alcohol forming the compound A is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of tetramethylolmethane, trimethylolpropane and polymers of these compounds.

14
S
B
15 (Amended). A rubber composition according to claim 9, wherein the amount of the compound A is 0.5 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of a rubber component.

16 (Amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the bead fillers and/or the rubber reinforcing layer comprises a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate, and has, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, an intersection of an extrapolation line A of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus shows an approximately linear change before a rapid decrease at temperatures higher than

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100°C and an extrapolation line B of a portion in which the dynamic storage modulus rapidly decreases, at a temperature of 170°C or higher.

A4
Sh
B3
CMT
17 (amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the bead fillers and/or the rubber reinforcing layer comprises a rubber composition comprising, in a curve exhibiting a change in dynamic storage modulus during elevation of temperature, a difference $\Delta E'$ between the maximum value and the minimum value of the dynamic storage modulus at a temperature between 180 and 200 °C of 2.5 MPa or less.

18 (Amended). A pneumatic tire according to claim 19, which is a run-flat tire.

19 (Amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising sodium 1,6-hexamethylenedithiosulfate dihydrate.

SUB
(4)
20 (Amended). A pneumatic tire comprising bead fillers and/or side wall portions reinforced with a rubber reinforcing layer, wherein the rubber reinforcing layer and/or bead fillers comprise a rubber composition comprising a compound A having two or more ester groups in one molecule.